



Statement of Senator Feinstein on GAO Report on SCAAP
May 9, 2005

Washington, DC – The Government Accountability Office today released a report showing that California and three other states have been reimbursed less than 25 percent for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP), where the Federal government reimburses states for the estimated costs to incarcerate criminal aliens.

The report shows that in FY 2003 California spent \$635 million and received only \$77 million from the Federal government and in FY 2002 California spent \$510 million and received only \$66 million from the Federal government.

Following is the statement of U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.):

“The GAO report released today shows a gross miscarriage of justice – that California is being significantly short-changed when it comes to reimbursement for the costs associated with incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens.

Protecting our borders is a federal responsibility, yet the federal government has failed to live up to its responsibility year in and year out. State and local government should not be shouldered with the cost of incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens.

To add insult to injury, this year the President’s budget did not include any funding for SCAAP. The Senate should right this wrong and fund SCAAP when it considers the Commerce-Justice-Science appropriations bill later this year.”

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